

Message Text

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ACTION A-01

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O 170906Z NOV 74

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 6079

INFO WHITE HOUSE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T SECTOON 1 OF 2 TOKYO 15007

DEPT FOR A

WHITE HOUSE FOR HENKEL

WHITE HOUSE REPEAT TO SAM 27000 FOR PARTY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (FORD, GERALD R.)

SUBJ: PRESIDENTIAL VISIT: NOV 20 DIET MEMBERS' RECEPTION

REF: STATE 253481

1. EMBASSY HAS SELECTED LIST OF MAJOR POLITICAL FIGURES WHO ARE EXPECTED TO ATTEND NOV 20 DIET MEMBERS' RECEPTION AND WHO WILL BE INDIVIDUALLY PRESENTED TO PRESIDENT ON THAT OCCASION. OUR SCENARIO ENVISAGES THAT AFTER PRESIDENT ENTERS RECEPTION AREA FOLLOWING INITIAL GREETINGS BY HOSTS MAEO AND KONO IN ANTEROOM, EMBASSY OFFICERS WILL ESCORT LISTED INDIVIDUALS ONE AT A TIME IN TURN TO MEET PRESIDENT AND EXCHANGE FEW WORDS WITH HIM. ESCORTING OFFICERS WILL INTRODUCE SOME OF INDIVIDUALS ON LIST AS PRESIDENT PROCEEDS TO RECEPTION ROSTRUM AND REMAINDER AS PRESIDENT MINGLES WITH GUESTS PRIOR TO HIS DEPARTURE. PRIOR TO PRESIDENT'S ARRIVAL EMBASSY OFFICERS WILL ALERT DIETMEN SELECTED THAT PRESIDENT HOPES TO MEET THEM, SO THAT THEY WILL KNOW THEY HAVE BEEN SINGLED OUT IN EVENT THAT CIRCUMSTANCES OF RECEPTION MAKE INTRODUCTIONS IMPOSSIBLE.

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2. BRIEF BIO'S OF RECEPTION HOSTS MAEO AND KONO TOGETHER WITH THOSE OF TEN INDIVIDUALS TO BE SPECIALLY INTRODUCED TO PRESIDENT ARE AS FOLLOWS:

A) SHIGESABURO MAEO, 69, SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES -- GRADUATED FROM TOKYO IMPERIAL UNIVERSITY LAW DEPT, MAEO WAS A BUREAUCRAT SERVING MAINLY IN THE FINANCE MINISTRY BOTH BEFORE AND AFTER WORLD WAR II. HE ENTERED POLITICS IN 1949 AND WAS ELECTED TO THE DIET LOWER HOUSE WHERE HE HAS SERVED TO DATE. HE WAS APPOINTED BY PRIME MINISTER NOBUSUKE KISHI TO HIS FIRST CABINET POST IN 1957, THAT OF MINISTER OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE AND INDUSTRY. AFTER THAT HE SERVED IN NUMEROUS ADVISORY AND EXECUTIVE POSITIONS IN THE LIBERAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY AND EVENTUALLY BECAME HEAD OF HIS OWN LDP FACTION, WHICH WAS LATER TAKEN OVER BY PRESENT FINANCE MINISTER MASAYOSHI OHIRA. MARRIED BUT CHILDLESS, HE IS RESPECTED AS A SENIOR LDP POLITICIAN AND ADVISOR. DESPITE HIS LACK OF OUTSTANDING LEADERSHIP CHARACTERISTICS, HE IS REGARDED AS A VERY SINCERE AND ABLE POLITICIAN.

B) KENZO KONO, 73, PRESIDENT OF THE HOUSE OF COUNCILLORS -- KONO IS A MEMBER OF A FAMILY WHICH HAS PRODUCED SEVERAL POLITICIANS. HE WAS FIRST ELECTED TO THE LOWER HOUSE IN 1949 AND THEN RAN SUCCESSFULLY FOR THE UPPER HOUSE IN 1953 AND HAS BEEN ELECTED CONTINUOUSLY EVER SINCE. ALTHOUGH OF LIBERAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY BACKGROUND, HE HAS BEEN CONSIDERED AN INDEPENDENT SINCE BEING ELECTED PRESIDENT OF THE UPPER HOUSE. KONO HAS RATHER EXTENSIVE BUSINESS INTERESTS ESPECIALLY IN THE FERTILIZER INDUSTRY. HE IS KEENLY INTERESTED IN PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND RECENTLY RETURNED FROM A VISIT TO CHINA CONCERNING CULTURAL EXCHANGE CENTERING ON SPORTS. KONO HAS TRAVELLED RATHER WIDELY ABROAD. HE IS MARRIED AND HAS TWO SONS AND A DAUGHTER.

C) EISAKU SATO, 73, FORMER PRIME MINISTER -- SATO, A GRADUATE OF TOKYO IMPERIAL UNIVERSITY, WAS FIRST ELECTED TO THE LOWER HOUSE IN 1949, FOLLOWING A CAREER IN THE GOVERNMENT BUREAUCRACY. HE IMMEDIATELY ACHIEVED POLITICAL PROMINENCE AND HELD VARIOUS HIGH PARTY AND CABINET POSTS PRIOR TO BECOMING PRIME MINISTER IN 1964. IN THE EIGHT YEARS HE HELD THE

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PREMIERSHIP, SATO'S POLICIES FOCUSED ON IMPROVING JAPAN'S INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC POSITION AND MAINTAINING STRONG TIES WITH THE UNITED STATES. THE REVERSION OF OKINAWA WAS ACCOMPLISHED DURING HIS TENURE AND SATO REGARDS IT AS ONE OF HIS MAJOR ACHIEVEMENTS. HE STILL RETAINS CONSIDERABLE INFLUENCE WITHIN THE PARTY AND WILL FIGURE IN THE SELECTION PROCESS FOR THE NEXT PRIME MINISTER. SATO WAS RECENTLY NAMED AS RE-

CIPIENT OF THE NOBEL PEACE PRIZE. HE IS MARRIED AND HAS TWO GROWN CHILDREN.

D) NOBUSUKE KISHI, 78, FORMER PRIME MINISTER AND SENIOR ADVISOR TO THE LIBERAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY -- KISHI HAS CONTINUED TO BE AN INFLUENTIAL ADVISOR TO THE LDP EVEN AFTER CONCLUDING HIS TENURE AS PRIME MINISTER FROM FEBRUARY 1957 TO 1960. KISHI AND HIS YOUNGER BROTHER, EISAKU SATO, WHO ALSO BECAME PRIME MINISTER, ARE USUALLY DESCRIBED AS REPRESENTING THE RIGHT-WING OF THE LDP. AFTER HE GRADUATED FROM TOKYO IMPERIAL UNIVERSITY LAW SCHOOL IN 1920, HE SERVED IN SEVERAL MINISTERIAL POSTS BEFORE AND DURING WORLD WAR II. HE WAS IMPROSONED BY THE OCCUPATION FORCES FROM THE END OF THE WAR UNTIL DECEMBER 1948. HE BECAME ACTIVE IN POST-WAR POLITICS IN 1953, JOINING THE LIBERAL PARTY AND BEING ELECTED TO THE DIET. HE WAS INSTRUMENTAL IN THE FORMATION OF THE PRESENT LDP IN 1955 AND SERVED AS ITS FIRST SECRETARY GENERAL. HE WAS A FORCEFUL LEADER AS PRIME MINISTER, TAKING A STRONG ANTI-COMMUNIST STAND AND SUCCESSFULLY FORCING THROUGH THE REVISION OF THE U.S.-JAPAN SECURITIY TREATY IN 1960 AGAINST LARGE SCALE LEFTIST OPPOSITION WHICH CAUSED HIM TO RESIGN AFTER THAT ACHIEVEMENT.

E) MASAYOSHI OHIRA, 64, MINISTER OF FINANCE -- OHIRA IS A GRADUATE OF HITOTSUBASHI UNIVERSITY (IN TOKYO) AND A FORMER BUREAUCRAT TURNED POLITICIAN. HE HAS BEEN ELECTED TO THE LOWER HOUSE CONTINUOUSLY SINCE 1952. HIS FIRST MAJOR CABINET POST CAME IN 1960 AS CHIEF CABINET SECRETARY UNDER THEN PRIME MINISTER HAYATO IKEDA, OHIRA'S POLITICAL BENEFACTOR. SINCE THEN HE HAS SEVERAL TIMES BEEN MINISTER OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS. HE IS A CLOSE ALLY OF PRIME MINISTER TANAKA AND IS CONSIDERED TO BE A VERY LIKELY SUCCESSOR TO TANAKA. OHIRA IS MARRIED AND HAS FOUR GROWN CHILDREN; HE IS A CHRISTIAN.

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